

IPAN

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q76938

Hirokazu NUNOKAWA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/643,087

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 3065

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: August 19, 2003

For: PRINTING METHOD, PRINTING APPARATUS, COMPUTER-READABLE MEDIUM,
AND CORRECTION PATTERN

SUBMISSION OF A COMMUNICATION OF A FOREIGN OFFICE ACTION IN A
CORRESPONDING APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby submit a copy of a Communication of a Foreign Office Action in connection with a European Patent Application that corresponds to the subject U.S. Application. Applicants do not make any admission that the European office action has any legal or factual relevance to the subject U.S. Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 9, 2005



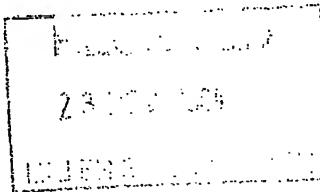
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Application No. 03 255 364.6 - 2304	Ref. EPP14770A	Date 19.11.2004
Applicant SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION		

Invitation pursuant to Article 96(2) and Rule 51(2) EPC

Further examination of the above application has revealed that, for the reasons given in the enclosed copy of the result of consultation by telephone on 22.10.2004, it does not meet the requirements of the European Patent Convention.

You are requested to remedy the indicated deficiencies within a
period of 4 months

from notification of this invitation.
The time limit is calculated in accordance with the provisions of Rule 78(2), 83(2) and (4) EPC.
Failure to reply to this invitation in due time will result in the European application being deemed to be withdrawn (Article 96(3) EPC).



AXTERS M E
For the Examining Division
Enclosure(s): Copy of result of consultation (Form 2036)

Application No. :

03 255 364.6

Consultation by telephone with the applicant / representative

Despatch with a time limit of 4 month(s)

Participants

Applicant: SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION

Representative: STURT C M

Member(s) of the
Examining Division: AXTERS M E

Result of consultation

The applicants representative was informed that claim 10 is not allowable. The claim defines a correction pattern comprising a first, second and third sub-pattern. These features are provided in any conventional pattern. The other features stated in claim 10 relate to a printing apparatus or the intended use of the correction pattern, neither of those being features of the correction pattern as such (see the Guidelines C-III, 4.8a). Furthermore, the representative was informed that it is considered that the invention does not regard the correction pattern but the way it is achieved and the means for achieving it, namely to print a correction pattern for two different ink arrangements with one forward and return movement. It is therefore suggested that claim 10 should be deleted.
Note that Art. 64(2) EPC extends the protection for a claimed process to the products directly obtained by such process.
The applicant is given a 4 month time limit to file his reply.



22.10.2004
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Date

AXTERS M E

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Examiner